

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 7-14, 17-23, 26-33, 36-45 are pending, with claims 1, 20 and 39 being independent.

The Applicant would like to thank Examiner Taha for the telephonic interviews conducted on April 14, 2009 and April 15, 2009. As agreed to during those interviews, the foregoing amendments place the pending claims in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant requests that a notice of allowance be issued.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, objection, issue, or comment, including the Office Action's characterizations of the art, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment or cancellation of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment or cancellation. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the rejected claims in further prosecution of this or related applications.

The fee in the amount of \$130 for payment of the one-month extension of time is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization.

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1050. The Director also is hereby authorized to apply any additional fees or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/15/09



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